

Handed to Sec. Kissinger  
by Amb. Dobrynin  
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We would like to draw your attention to one of the questions related to the situation in Berlin. It seems to us that its timely settlement on a reasonable basis without making unnecessary fuss and giving cause for misunderstandings and frictions is in the interests of the sides concerned.

The question is of the fact that already for a number of years the motor vehicles of the military police of the US garrison in West Berlin perform regular twenty-four-hour patrolling of the territory of the GDR capital (the French and British do it less frequently). Such demonstrative patrolling causes an understandable irritation of the GDR authorities and the local population. It is also meaningless from the viewpoint of performing the commandant service since the US military police cannot exercise any official functions on the territory of the GDR capital including those with regard to US servicemen who occasionally visit Democratic Berlin.

We would like to point out that quadripartite agreements and decisions do not give either the Americans or the French or the British any right to perform the police patrolling service in East Berlin. It was introduced arbitrarily and pursues purely demonstrative purposes, which was repeatedly stated by US officials and written in the press.

The Soviet military motor vehicles are not engaged in patrolling activities in West Berlin. Our military personnel visit West Berlin either to go to places where they perform their duties (Berlin Air Control Center, Spandau prison, the Monument to Soviet soldiers in Tiergarten) or for usual sightseeing tours.

In addressing the US side we do not pursue the purpose of raising the question of a change in the procedure of crossing the GDR frontier in Berlin by other military personnel of the

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three Powers. However the patrolling should be ceased. It does not conform to the real situation, to the general climate prevailing in that area after the conclusion of the Quadripartite Agreement, the broad international recognition of the GDR. Neither does it correspond to quadripartite agreements or to quadripartite practice.

We are not going to make public the fact of our address to the US side, to draw at present the attention of the British and French to this question. It may be difficult for the US side in view of the present situation of the election campaign to take radical measures already in the near future. We hope, however, that our position will be regarded with understanding and we expect that the patrolling will be reduced and subsequently brought to nought.

In conclusion we would like to stress once again that in the interests of maintaining a business-like contact on West Berlin it would be advisable to remove this question from the agenda without attracting unnecessary attention to it.



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